

**ITTLESON FOUNDATION, INC.**

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

**15 East 67 Street  
New York . New York 10065**

## **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

H. Anthony Ittleson  
*Chairman and President*

Pamela Syrmis  
*Vice President*

Andrew Auchincloss  
*Director*

H. Philip Ittleson  
*Director*

Stephanie Ittleson  
*Director*

Christina Ittleson Smith  
*Director*

Victor Syrmis, M.D.  
*Director*

Anthony C. Wood  
*Secretary and Executive Director*

Henry P. Davison II  
*Treasurer*

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***IN 1948, THE FOUNDATION BEGAN TO FOCUS ITS INTERESTS ON THE FIELDS OF HEALTH, WELFARE, PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH, AND INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS. WITHIN THESE MAJOR INTERESTS, SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON MENTAL HEALTH AND THE MENTAL, PHYSICAL AND SOCIALWELL-BEING OF CHILDREN.***

## **A HISTORY OF THE FOUNDATION**

In 1932, Henry Ittleson, the founder of the CIT Financial Corporation, created the Ittleson Foundation. He served as presiding trustee of the Foundation, and his wife Blanche F. Ittleson, and their son Henry Ittleson Jr., as trustees, continued in their respective roles until 1948.

In that year Mr. Ittleson died and Henry Ittleson, Jr. became the presiding trustee. At that time Mrs. Henry Ittleson, Jr. joined the Foundation as a trustee.

In 1948, under the leadership of Blanche F. Ittleson and Henry Ittleson, Jr., the Foundation began to focus its interests on the fields of health, welfare, public education for mental health, and intercultural relations. Within these major interests, special emphasis was placed on mental health and the mental, physical, and social well-being of children. Over the years, other issues such as the needs of the elderly, homelessness, and crime and justice, have received the Foundation's attention. Today the Foundation's areas of particular interest are: mental health, AIDS, and the environment.

With the death of Henry Ittleson, Jr. in 1973, H. Anthony Ittleson, grandson of the founder and a trustee since 1966, became President of the Foundation. Under his stewardship the Foundation has continued its signature role of providing seed money for new ideas and initiatives by supporting pilot projects, demonstration projects, and applied research.

The Foundation has a long tradition of active grant making and has been fortunate in the high quality of its executive staff leadership in the persons of Nina Ridenour (1952-67), William T. Beaty, II, (1967-88), David M. Nee (1988-1993), and Anthony C. Wood (1993-). Since its founding, the Foundation has also benefited from the insights of a variety of distinguished trustees.

Today the Foundation, its trustees and staff continue to build on the philanthropic foundation laid by its founder and developed with skill and devotion by his wife Blanche F. Ittleson and their son, Henry Ittleson, Jr.

***AS A SMALL FOUNDATION COMMITTED TO MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE, WE ARE STRATEGIC IN OUR GRANT MAKING. WE SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE SEED MONEY FOR INNOVATIVE PILOT AND MODEL PROGRAMS.***

**CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

Frequently I am asked, "What does it take to get a grant from the Ittleson Foundation?" My answer is straightforward yet necessarily ambiguous, "It takes a request that falls within our funding guidelines *and* something that 'sparks' our interests."

The Foundation continues to focus its resources on AIDS, the Environment, and Mental Health. Though funding broadly in each area, we do have specific concerns. In AIDS we focus on prevention and the mental health consequences of the disease. In the Environment we look to educate a new generation of environmentalists. We are also intrigued by urban environmental issues and efforts at resource protection. In Mental Health we prefer projects that cut across the entire field and those that address underserved populations.

Matching one of our program guidelines, however, is only the first step towards a grant. As a small foundation committed to making a real difference, we are strategic in our grant making. We seek opportunities to provide seed money for innovative pilot and model programs. We are willing to take risks on new ideas and inspired yet untested new leaders. This of course is not at the exclusion of proven professionals, many of whom the foundation supported before they became well recognized. We fund applied research but only when we see it linked to real change in the lives of real people. We look for situations where our involvement brings more to the table than our dollars. Will our participation attract other funders? Can the technical help we offer make an essential difference? Is there a special role we can play?

Lastly, there is that element of "sparking." Ours is a highly competitive process. With limited funds and many worthy projects, good ideas must compete with one another. In seeking a balance of subject matter, project type and, as a national foundation, geographic diversity, the deciding factor between worthy applications often becomes one of these variables. Hence, as with much of life, there is an element of that little "extra" that enters into the process.

If you feel your request is right for us, I encourage you to submit it. Though our ability to help is limited, our admiration for those working in the field seeking to make a difference is unlimited. We urge you onward in your work and wish you the best of success with us and other potential supporters.

*H. Anthony Ittleson*  
*Chairman*

***WE LOOK TO UNITE OUR FISCAL RESOURCES WITH THE CREATIVE ENERGY, EXPERTISE AND FOCUSED PASSION OF OUR GRANTEES.***

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Change is one of the few things in life that is constant. Recognizing the profound nature of the changes that have occurred in the last decade, the Foundation recently decided it was time to step back and examine how these events have impacted our three primary areas of concern: AIDS, the Environment, and Mental Health. Though our commitment to continue funding in these areas was never in doubt, what was open for examination was the particular focus of our work within them.

The description of our current funding interests that appears in the following pages is a result of this just completed examination and exploration. The adjustments we have made to our funding program are not as dramatic as they are strategic. They reflect subtle yet important shifts of focus that we feel allow the Foundation to better address the current needs of each field.

Before highlighting some of these refinements, it is important to emphasize what has not changed. Our "venture capital" approach to philanthropy remains strong. It is the innovative pilot, model, and demonstration project that still commands our attention. In all three areas we are committed to assisting underserved populations and we remain particularly interested in projects that address the needs of children and the elderly. Projects that link formal professional competence with community-based efforts continue to interest us.

There are, however, some exciting new concerns called out in each of our funding areas. To highlight just a few: in AIDS, we add to our interest in prevention a heightened concern for making treatment information accessible, available and easily understandable. In the Environment, our focus shifts from educating a new generation of environmentalists to helping move society from environmental awareness to environmental activism. In Mental Health, we recognize the still much-needed effort to fight the stigma associated with mental illness as well as the growing need to utilize new knowledge and current technological advances to improve programs and services for those with mental illness.

For a fuller detailed description of our program interests please read on. We believe the changes we have made, combined with the Foundation's longstanding philanthropic style and approach, best position us to respond to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As always, we look to unite our fiscal resources with the creative energy, expertise, and focused passions of our grantees. Indeed, when these are combined, great things happen.

*Anthony C. Wood*  
*Executive Director*

***WE LOOK FOR PILOT PROJECTS, TEST AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AND APPLIED RESEARCH THAT WOULD INFORM PUBLIC POLICY, IF SUCCESSFUL. SUCH PROJECTS SHOULD BE OF NATIONAL SCOPE OR SIGNIFICANCE BEYOND THE LOCAL AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION. PROJECTS SHOULD RESULT IN A PRODUCT OR OUTCOME OF SOME CONSEQUENCE IN THE REAL WORLD.***

### **CURRENT INTERESTS**

The Ittleson Foundation generally provides seed money for the start-up of innovative programs that will improve the social welfare of citizens of the United States. We look for pilot projects, test and demonstration projects, and applied research that would inform public policy, if successful. Such projects should be of national scope, or significance beyond the local area of implementation. Projects should result in a product or outcome of some consequence in the real world. The Foundation also supports dissemination and, on occasion, evaluation.

We will support a pilot program or the start-up of a new service when:

- the service or project appears to be truly innovative
- there are practical plans for evaluation
- there appears to be an audience for the results
- there is a credible plan for dissemination to those audiences and utilization of these results elsewhere

Current areas of particular interest listed in alphabetical order are:

### **I. AIDS**

AIDS remains a significant concern of the Ittleson Foundation. Our commitment to supporting cutting-edge prevention efforts remains strong. As in all our current areas of interest, innovative initiatives that involve more than one program area are encouraged.

We are particularly interested in new model, pilot, and demonstration efforts:

- . addressing the needs of underserved at-risk populations and especially those programs recognizing the overlap between such programs
- . responding to the challenges facing community-based AIDS service organizations and those organizations addressing systemic change
- . providing meaningful school-based sex education
- . making treatment information accessible, available and easily understandable to those in need of it
- . addressing the psycho-social needs of those infected and affected by AIDS especially adolescents

## **II. ENVIRONMENT**

The Ittleson Foundation supports innovative pilot, model and demonstration projects that will help move individuals, communities and organizations from environmental awareness to environmental activism by changing attitudes and behaviors.

We particularly seek to encourage and nurture environmental action through:

- supporting the present generation of environmental activists whether professionals or volunteer through education, training and other activities
- educating and engaging the next generation of environmentalists with a special interest in supporting the training of those who are teaching that generation
- strengthening the infrastructure of the environmental movement with a particular focus on efforts at the grassroots and statewide levels
- activating new constituencies, particularly those focused on environment equity issues

## **III. MENTAL HEALTH**

Since 1932 Mental Health has been a major focus at the Ittleson Foundation. The Foundation continues its commitment to bringing its venture capital approach to philanthropy to this area. In addition to our historic commitment to addressing the needs of underserved populations, we are particularly interested in innovative, pilot, model and demonstration projects that are:

- fighting the stigma associated with mental illness and working to change the public's negative perception of people who have mental illness
- utilizing new knowledge and current technological advances to improve programs and services for people who have mental illness
- bringing the full benefits of this knowledge and technology to those who presently do not have access to them
- advancing preventative mental health effort, especially those targeted to youth and adolescents, with a special focus on strategies that involve parents, teachers and others in close contact with these populations

Please note that the Foundation does not generally provide funds for:

- capital building projects
- endowments
- grants to individuals
- scholarships or internships (except as part of a program)
- direct service programs, especially when outside New York City
- projects local in focus and unlikely to be replicated
- continuing or general support
- projects and organizations international in scope or purpose
- biomedical research

## **HOW TO APPLY**

To apply, send a brief letter to the Executive Director describing the organization and the work for which funds are being sought, along with a budget and evidence of tax-exempt status. If the activity falls within the current scope of the Foundation's interests, the applicant will be asked to supply additional information as required.

The Foundation Board meets once a year. Initial letters of inquiry must be received on or before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Should we decline to support a proposal, we ask applicants to wait at least one year before reapplying for any purpose.

Inquiries should be address to:

Anthony C. Wood  
Executive Director  
Ittleson Foundation, Inc.  
15 East 67th Street  
New York, NY 10065



## **2015 GRANT SUMMARIES**

*Grants paid During 2015*

*Including Payment for Grants Awarded in Prior Years*

### **AIDS**

**SERO** **\$20,000**  
**Milford, PA**

One time grant to SERO, a national network of people with HIV, to support the launch of its Network Empowerment Project (NEP), a US-based project that aims to re-invigorate the persons living with HIV self-empowerment movement to reduce stigma and improve quality of life and health outcomes, particularly mental health, for people with HIV (PWHAs).

*(Second payment of a \$70.0 grant)*

### **ENVIRONMENT**

**Center for Watershed Protection** **\$10,000**  
**Ellicott City, MD**

One-time grant to support the "Safe Waters, Healthy Waters" initiative to give communities the information and tools they need to dramatically reduce water pollution from sewage, particularly addressing the 50-70% of bacteria in streams and rivers from dry weather sewage discharge.

*(Final payment of a \$65.0 grant)*

**Dogwood Alliance** **\$30,000**  
**Asheville, NC**

One-time grant to launch a campaign to elevate as a national conservation priority the protection of America's wetland forests, a largely unrecognized and under-appreciated landscape type that plays numerous important environmental roles and spreads over nine states. The campaign includes an effort to secure \$10 million in corporate conservation funding for forested wetland protection.

*(First payment of a \$75,000 grant)*

**GreenFaith** **\$15,000**  
**Highland Park, NY**

One-time grant to support the Energy Stewardship Initiative of the Seminary Environmental Certification Program. Through the initiative, theological seminaries nationally will implement energy efficiency and conservation measures and equip their students to reduce the carbon footprint of the nation's 370,000 religious facilities and also of those Americans who regularly attend religious services.

*(Final payment of a \$60.0 grant)*

**Institute for Local Self-Reliance** **\$10,000**  
**Washington, DC**  
One-time grant to launch and nationally replicate the Advanced and Master Composter train-the-trainer component of the “Composting for Community” project.  
*(Final payment of a \$60.0 grant)*

**New England Forestry Foundation** **\$40,000**  
**Littleton, MA**  
One-time grant to refine, rollout and replicate a model Pooled Income Fund for Forestland as a new tool to accelerate the pace of land protection and to promote exemplary forest management practices.  
*(First payment of a \$70.0 grant)*

**Rocky Mountain Institute** **\$40,000**  
**Boulder, CO**  
One-time grant to support the Fleet Electrification Project aimed at increasing the use of electric vehicles by fleets of light-duty business vehicles (e.g. taxis, Uber, Lyft, etc.) This project seeks to overcome the three primary obstacles to fleet electrification: sticker-shock; range anxiety and charging infrastructure worries, and financing by piloting solutions in Austin and Denver.  
*(First payment of a \$70.0 grant)*

**Solstice Initiative** **\$40,000**  
**Somerville, MA**  
Seed funding to support a new non-profit organization dedicated to bringing solar energy to the 80 percent of Americans who are currently locked out of it. Our technical help and fund will enable them to refine their community solar business model, launch its replication across the country and build the organization to advance its mission. Solstice will refine and expand their model in Massachusetts bring it to two to four other states and ultimately expand to additional states.  
*(First payment of a \$90.0 grant)*

**Trust for Public Land** **\$5,000**  
**New York, NY**  
One-time grant to support the “Green Infrastructure Program for US Cities” to advance the use of green infrastructure projects in US cities as the preferred way to address excess runoff which triggers the discharge of raw sewage and storm water into rivers, harbors and coastal areas.  
*(Final payment of a \$55.0 grant)*

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

**Anu Family Services  
St. Paul, MN**

**\$25,000**

One-time grant to create a national institute designed to transform child welfare systems by providing systems-coaching, staff training, modeling direct care services and developing and convening best practices, resources, tools and interventions which promote the healing and wellbeing for leaders, healers and youth to create a Full Systems Wellbeing approach to foster care.

*(Second payment of a \$75.0 grant)*

**Crisis Text Line  
New York, NY**

**\$20,000**

One-time grant to take Crisis Text Line national. Crisis Text Line is a start-up nonprofit in New York City. Their new support line uses text messages to provide teens in crisis with counseling and referrals. To expand from their current beta launch in two cities, Crisis Text Line will recruit, train and support a national force of volunteer counselors who work from all across the country.

*(Second payment of a \$60.0 grant)*

**Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.  
New York State Psychiatric Institute  
Center for Practice Innovations at Columbia Psychiatry  
New York, NY**

**\$20,000**

One-time grant to allow The Center to transform and nationally disseminate its innovate *OnTrackNY* program which provides early and effective intervention for individuals with newly emerging psychosis. Through an enhanced website with more robust training materials and a more efficient and personalized method to respond to inquires, *OnTrackUSA* will take their model national providing training and technical assistance to at least 10-12 state or county governments or mental health agencies outside of NYS.

*(Second payment of a \$65.0 grant)*

**Spark Movement.org  
Fiscal Agent: Hardy Girls Healthy Women, Inc.  
Waterville, ME**

**\$25,000**

One time grant to support Spark Movement in becoming its own sustainable 501(c)(3) organization. Spark Movement.org works with girls to support their mental health and help prevent HIV/AIDS by engaging them in efforts to address the sexualization of girls and women.

*(Second payment of a \$75.0 grant)*

## **GRANTS SUMMARY**

Total Program Grants	\$300,000
Miscellaneous	25,000
Membership and Other Grants	14,725
Grant Total	\$339,725

## **STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS**

*At Fair Market Value, December 31, 2015*

### **Assets**

Cash and Institutional Funds	\$38,518
Investments at Fair Market Value (Cost \$11,636,844)	\$12,570,767

### **Net Assets**

December 31, 2015	\$12,609,285
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